

**MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Gari Spearpoint - (GS) Chair
 David Murfitt – (DM)
 Ray Hart- (RH)

 Keith Williams (KW)-Parish Clerk
 2 members of the public

1723. Declarations of Interest

None

1724. Apologies for Absence

Peter Beaumont – (PB)
Erica Bromley – (EB)
Caroline Mackrill - (CM)
District Councillor Neil Hargreaves – (NH)
District Councillor Judy Emanuel – (JE)

1725. Minutes of the last meeting held on 11th September 2025 (already circulated)

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

1726. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 11th September 2025

- Sue Duncan has confirmed that she is happy for a memorial bench in memory of Tom Duncan be provided. It will be sited at the Green.
- Two Christmas trees are to be purchased.

1727. Public participation session

The consultation process on the Local Plan closes on 26th November.

The Chairman thanked Brandon Chapman for all his efforts on behalf of the village in connection with the Local Plan.

1728. Correspondence

John Lodge of RDPR has contacted the Parish Council and wishes to discuss the future of the Pavilion. A meeting will be arranged.

1729. Footpaths

The cats eyes on the B1383 have been replaced.

The following advice from County Councillor Ray Gooding was forwarded onto the Parish Council by Kemi Badenoch MP, regarding the various issues previously raised.

“The clearance of the footpath is generally not regarded by the Highway Authority as a priority because the estimated cost of the works is anticipated to be excessive. I continue to try to establish a means to fund this work but that is proving to be extremely difficult.

The repair of the VAS Sign at the northern end of the village is now included in my Members scheme and is likely to be completed within the next five weeks.

The island in the road was installed as a part of a traffic calming scheme requested by the Parish. This island was installed as the second phase of that work. It has proved to be impractical and the fixed reflective bollards were knocked down four times in as many weeks. I have therefore requested that this installation be reviewed because it is proving to be an unacceptable maintenance requirement. That review will be completed shortly and it is likely that the island will be removed and replaced with a painted solution that will imply an island but will not be a hazard if it is driven over.”

1730. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

1731. Village projects

A working group has used the recently purchased planings to fill in some of the potholes. GS has been in contact with a sub-contractor who intends installing the posts around the Green when the ground has softened sufficiently. GS Has obtained a map from Affinity Water showing where the water pipes are situated around the Green.

1732. Village Asset storage

Many of the village assets are distributed in various sites. The proposal is to have all the moveable assets in one place. There is a suggestion that the Council purchase a suitable lockable container. GS has spoken to a representative from the Village Hall Committee with a view to siting the container within the Village Hall confines. This will be considered by the Village Hall Committee.

1733. Belchams Lane

No plans have yet been submitted. There is nothing further to report at this time.

1734. Actions Log

Councillors will give the Parish Clerk details of entries to be made in the Log. The Actions Log will be updated and distributed prior to each monthly meeting.

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1735. Finance

- a. Accounts Balances (already circulated) - Noted.
- b. Invoices and payments for approval (already circulated) - Approved.

FINANCE REPORT for OCTOBER 2025

Balance b/f @ 30/09/2025 10930.25

Payments to be authorised for OCTOBER 2025

Payee	Chq No	Amount	Reason
Npower	dd	104.79	Electricity for March 2025
Npower	dd	86.74	Electricity for April 2025
Npower	dd	74.04	Electricity for May 2025
Npower	dd	63.66	Electricity for June 2025
Npower	dd	69.62	Electricity for July 2025
Npower	dd	83.42	Electricity for August 2025
Npower	dd	97.18	Electricity for September 2025
Payroo	online	6.00	Payroll expenses for September 2025
123 Reg (Keith Williams)	online	31.18	Renewal of Domain registration
Pegasi Management	online	1.00	Rent for football field
Gari Spearpoint	online	20.60	Chairman's expenses
Keith Williams	online	445.84	Salary for October 2025
HMRC (Keith Williams)	online	111.60	PAYE for October 2025
James Penrose	online	230.00	Grasscutting for October 2025
Unity Trust Bank	dd	6.00	Service charge
Total Payments for October 2025		1431.67	

Balances at 31/10/2025	Current A/C	9498.58
	Savings A/C	
	b/f	20646.26
	Interest	238.54
	Savings A/C	20884.80
Total c/f at 31/10/2025		30383.38

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Please note: The payments to HMRC and 123Reg were made by the parish clerk and are being reimbursed.

1736. Events

The Christmas light-up will be on 28th November.

1737. County and District Councillor reports

Cllr Neil Hargreaves

The following report was submitted by Cllr Hargreaves

“Newport Quendon & Rickling Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan refresh six week public consultation finishes 26th November. The Plan and supporting maps, appendices and independent reports are on the steering group website <https://www.nqrplan.org/>.

There have been a few responses from Newport residents and Widdington parish council raised a number of matters at its November meeting and agreed to submit a response. A response was received from Debden PC but only on layout and documentation matters. There has been nothing from Quendon residents. Q&R PC has already given its blessing so doesn't need to say anything, but would be helpful to have residents support of the development limits revision and the policy on what is permissible for infill.

I am meeting with Wendens Ambo PC this evening

The Local Plan continues a smooth progress to adoption. The Planning Inspectorate have confirmed they are happy with the Main Modifications to the Regulation 19 version and with UDCs summaries and responses.

Local Govt Reorganisation proposals, five four or three unitaries will be the subject of a government consultation. Exact date not yet known. As always, the government issues strict deadlines for others, but only as 'guidance' for itself. Everyone can respond and UDC and the majority group of councils proposing five unitaries will be submitting responses.

Cllr Judy Emanuel

The following report was submitted by Cllr Emanuel

My apologies I won't be able to attend this week as I'll be away for a corporate peer challenge with a council in the midlands - a similar sized council to Uttlesford but in a different place from a planning perspective - they have 89% green belt and an 80%+ uplift in their housing requirement from the government so a tricky scenario to steer. I'm looking forward to it - it's my first assignment in my new role as a member peer for the local government association. I'm essentially going in with a team to act as troubleshooters and support them through a tricky time.

1738. Date of next meeting

11th December 2025.

1739. Closure of meeting

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.20.

[384/2025]